

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ENDORSEMENT LANGUAGE

**R7-2-614. Endorsements**

L. Early Childhood Education Endorsement - birth through age eight

1. An early childhood endorsement is optional, but recommended for individuals teaching in public school early childhood education programs who are not otherwise certified in early childhood education. When combined with an Arizona elementary education teaching certificate or an Arizona special education teaching certificate, it may be used in lieu of a standard early childhood education certificate as described in R7-2-612(I).
2. An endorsement shall be automatically renewed with the certificate on which it is posted.
3. The requirements are:
  - a. A valid Arizona elementary education teaching certificate as provided in R7-2-608 or a valid Arizona special education teaching certificate as provided in R7-2-610;
  - b. Early childhood education coursework and practicum experience which includes both of the following:
    - i. 21 semester hours of early childhood education courses to include all of the following areas of study:
      - (1) foundations of early childhood education;
      - (2) child guidance and classroom management;
      - (3) characteristics and quality practices for typical and atypical behaviors of young children;
      - (4) child growth and development, including health, safety and nutrition;
      - (5) child, family, cultural and community relationships;
      - (6) developmentally appropriate instructional methodologies for teaching language, math, science, social studies and the arts;
      - (7) early language and literacy development;
      - (8) assessing, monitoring and reporting progress of young children; and
    - ii. A minimum of 8 semester hours of practicum including:
      - (1) A minimum of 4 semester hours in a supervised field experience, practicum, internship or student teaching setting serving children birth - preschool. One year of full-time verified teaching experience with children in birth - preschool may substitute for this student teaching experience. This verification may come from a school-based education program or center-based program licensed by the Department of Health Services or regulated by tribal or military authorities; and
      - (2) A minimum of 4 semester hours in a supervised student teaching setting serving children in kindergarten - grade 3. One year of full-time verified teaching experience with children in kindergarten - grade 3 in an accredited school may substitute for this student teaching experience;
  - c. A valid Fingerprint Clearance Card issued by Arizona DPS;
  - d. A passing score on the early childhood professional knowledge portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment may be substituted for the 21 semester hours of early childhood education courses as described in R7-2-613(L).3.b.i; and
  - e. A passing score on the early childhood subject knowledge portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment ~~once that portion of the AEPA is adopted by the Board.~~
4. Teachers with a valid Arizona elementary education certificate or Arizona special education certificate as of July 1, 2012 ~~2006~~ meet the requirements of this Section with evidence of the following:
  - a. A minimum of three years infant/toddler, preschool or kindergarten - grade 3 classroom teaching experience within 10 years prior to July 1, 2012 ~~2009~~, and
  - b. A passing score on the early childhood subject knowledge portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment once that portion of the AEPA is adopted by the Board.